



# The Jekyll Journal

Fall 2020

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## The President's Corner...

*Rita Thompson*

Fall brings a new and exciting energy to Jekyll Island! In spite of the ongoing pandemic, we are looking forward to an excellent year. The Friends of Historic Jekyll Island (FOHJI) has been challenged to re-imagine some of our annual activities and events. The members of the Board have been working hard to find creative ways to achieve our goals of helping to preserve and protect the history of our beautiful island.

We are so grateful to all of you for your generosity. The funds we have received through your membership dues, contributions and fund raisers have allowed us to designate resources for the following projects:

### *\$7500 for the Tiffany Centennial*

The Tiffany stained glass window was installed in Faith Chapel in 1921. In recognition of this 100th anniversary, the JIA is bringing in a specialist to conduct assessment of this window and determine the conservation needs for its ongoing care. FOHJI is excited to be funding a significant part of this project.

### *\$8,000 for the Baker-Crane Carriage House*

The Baker-Crane Carriage House is one of the few remaining structures in the historic district that have not been restored. Used by the Baker and Crane families, the upper floor was used to house the carriage drivers and the lower floor was used for storing carriages and for stabling the horses. FOHJI will support this long-term project to rehabilitate the structure and put it back to active use. The first step is to have a termite tenting treatment completed. The next phase of the restoration will be foundation work followed by exterior restorations and finally the interior will be rehabilitated.

*Continued on page 2...*

*President's Corner continued from page 1...*

We will keep you updated and make more announcements as we determine other projects that we will support throughout the upcoming year.

I am looking forward to working together with you to preserve the history of Jekyll Island!

**Rita Thompson**

## Tiffany Stained-glass Window Centennial

*Ruthmary Williams*

The Friends of Historic Jekyll Island (FOHJI) is committed to supporting and assisting with the 2021 Centennial Celebration of the Tiffany stained-glass window located in Faith Chapel. Louis Comfort Tiffany was commissioned to create a stained-glass window for the west façade of the chapel. The window was installed in 1921 and dedicated to Jekyll Island Club member Frederick Gilbert Bourne, founder of the Singer Manufacturing Company. It's said the title of the window, "David Set Singers Before the Lord," honors both the name of Bourne's company and his enthusiasm for singing in church choirs. Tiffany's signature is in the bottom right-hand corner of the window. It's believed that this window, which is covered with a protective shield, is one of only five in existence.

The FOHJI Board has voted to provide the funds for a conservator to study the window and for a public presentation by the conservator. Due to Covid-19 social-distancing protocol, the Board hopes to create a video of the presentation to be posted on the FOHJI website for viewing. The Board also voted to provide funds to assist with hurricane shutters for the window and/or reglazing of the window.



## Baker-Crane Carriage House

*Barbara Stevenson*

The two structures in the Historic District that have not been restored are Gould Casino and Baker-Crane Carriage House. FOHJI will fund the termite fumigation of Baker-Crane, and the tenting of the building is scheduled for November 16<sup>th</sup>. This will be the first step in restoring the carriage house, which is adjacent to the Turtle Center.

The Queen Anne Revival building was constructed in 1886 for Frederic Baker, owner of Solterra Cottage, which burned in 1914. The carriage house was then purchased by Richard Teller Crane, Jr., who built Crane Cottage at the site where Solterra once stood. The upper floor of Baker-Crane served as housing for carriage drivers and handlers, while the lower level was for storing carriages and stabling horses. The lower level was also used as a social hall for staff.

Restoration of the Baker-Crane Carriage House will be a long-term project to be completed in stages. The future plan for the building includes classrooms and offices for the Turtle Center.



## Update on 2019-2020 Projects

Two projects that FOHJI voted to fund last year—the Hollybourne interpretive study and the Mosaic Outdoor Classroom—were put on hold because of the pandemic. The JIA has resumed work on these two projects and should complete them in 2021.

## Membership Report

*Tom Pfaffenbach, Membership Chair*

We are pleased to announce FOHJI ended the 2019-2020 with a new record of 201 memberships. The pandemic has made a significant impact on our 2020-2021 renewals, but it is not nearly as severe as one might think. To date, 131 (64%) have renewed. Considering our Canadian and out-of-state members that currently are not able to participate locally, we are pleased (but not satisfied) with our current membership level. If you are interested in joining FOHJI or if you are a past member, please visit our website at:

**[www.friendsofhistoricjekyll.org](http://www.friendsofhistoricjekyll.org)**

and send in your membership form so we can continue to preserve our historic community.

***[www.friendsofhistoricjekyll.org](http://www.friendsofhistoricjekyll.org)***



Remember to make your dollars go farther with AmazonSmile! You shop and AmazonSmile gives to the Friends of Historic Jekyll Island (FOHJI)! EASY!

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The AmazonSmile Foundation is a 501(c)(3) private foundation created by Amazon to run the AmazonSmile Program. AmazonSmile ([smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)) is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com, with the added bonus of earning proceeds for charity. AmazonSmile Foundation will donate .5% of the purchase price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charity selected by its customers.

### HERE'S HOW EASY IT IS:

1. Online go to:  
[https://smile.amazon.com/ref=smi\\_se\\_dshb\\_bk\\_smi](https://smile.amazon.com/ref=smi_se_dshb_bk_smi)
2. Make sure that "Friends of Historic Jekyll Island" is designated as the charity of your choice where you have the option that says "Supporting" with a down arrow.
3. Then shop to your heart's content.

## -LEGACY PROGRAM-

FOHJI now has a LEGACY PROGRAM for planned giving that makes it possible for individuals to donate through your will, investment portfolio, charitable trust or other beneficiary designations. We would encourage anyone to consider donating to further FOHJI's mission of preserving the historical nature of Jekyll Island through these tax deductible avenues.

One of the easiest ways to give is a one-time donation of a specified amount that may be provided through a single or multi-payment structure. Donors have the flexibility of providing contributions as a recurring monthly automatic disbursement to FOHJI.

Additional avenues of giving include:

- Designating FOHJI as a beneficiary in your will or life insurance policy;
- Providing for a distribution to FOHJI from your charitable trust;
- Transferring stocks, bonds and other securities to FOHJI for sale and the benefit of FOHJI's projects;
- Providing a restricted contribution to a specific FOHJI project that you would like to see move forward;
- Designating FOHJI to benefit from the sale of real estate or specified personal property.

Thank you in advance for considering these avenues of supporting FOHJI's mission. If you are interested in one of these methods of providing support, please consult your financial planner and/or tax consultant, if needed. Then contact FOHJI's Treasurer Ted Fleshman at 912-635-3620.

## 2021 FOHJI Auction Online

Each year the Annual FOHJI Auction is jammed with guests in the Morgan Center, all eager to bid on gift certificates, art objects, and many other items. The auction is FOHJI's most significant fundraiser and popular event.

Because of the pandemic, it is not possible to allow crowds into the Morgan Center. However, instead of cancelling the fundraiser, the FOHJI Board has decided to hold it online. The week of March 15<sup>th</sup> will be a pre-view period when potential bidders can peruse the website and choose what they would like to bid upon. The week of March 22<sup>nd</sup> will be the auction itself. The advantage of this format is that bidders do not have to be on Jekyll on a particular date to participate. All that is required is access to the internet.

Items will be limited to gift certificates, which will be mailed to the winning bidders once the auction is over. The auction is the major source of revenue for the organization, so please think about any certificates you may be able to donate. If you have donations, suggestions, or questions, please contact Carol Fritz, the Auction Chair, at [jekyllfriends@gmail.com](mailto:jekyllfriends@gmail.com).

Thank you for your support.



*Wall-to-wall bidders at the 2020 Auction*

## The Pandemic and Cancellations

It is with deep regret that the FOHJI Board decided in the interest of safety to cancel monthly programs through the remainder of 2020 and to cancel the Annual Dinner at the Club, originally scheduled for January 2021. The Board hopes that members are doing well and that we can all come together to celebrate Jekyll history in 2021.

## Michael Scott, Director of Historic Resources

By Barbara Stevenson

FOHJI extends a warm welcome to Michael Scott, the new JIA Director of Historic Resources. Michael comes to Jekyll from South Carolina, where he served as Park Manager for Redcliffe Plantation State Historic Site on Beech Island. He has also worked at various historic sites and museums in North Carolina, including High Point Museum, North Carolina Museum of History, and Reed Gold Mine State Historic Site. Michael received his B.A. in History from Slippery Rock University and his M.S. in Nonprofit Administration from Louisiana State University.

Michael started his new position on Jekyll in October. He has been busy hiring new staff and reorganizing operations. He will then turn his attention to developing innovative ways to engage the public with the Mosaic Museum and the Historic District. Michael hopes that, when the time comes, FOHJI members will volunteer to assist with new projects that aim to share Jekyll's compelling historical stories with visitors.



***Michael encourages everyone to visit the Mosaic Museum to see the special exhibit celebrating the centennial of the Nineteenth Amendment. This interactive exhibit showcases Jekyll Island's connections to the women's suffrage movement***

## Financial Report

*Ted Fleshman, Treasurer*

FOHJI began this fiscal year (1 July 2020 – 30 July 2021) with \$109,706 in the general fund, and as of September 30<sup>th</sup>, we have \$113,166. Project commitments total \$33,000, including the remaining \$15,000 (due in November) of the \$60,000 pledged for the Mosaic Outdoor Classroom, \$10,000 for the Hollybourne Cottage interpretive study, and \$8,000 for the Baker-Crane Carriage House termite fumigation. That leaves \$80,166 available to fund other projects. The remaining \$7,556 in the Faith Chapel fund has been committed to the restoration and centennial celebration of the Tiffany window.

Each issue of the *Jekyll Journal* will include a summary of FOHJI finances. As a member, you are entitled to know all details about the operation of the organization. Should you wish to receive a financial report or minutes from a FOHJI board meeting, send a request to [jekyllfriends@gmail.com](mailto:jekyllfriends@gmail.com).

## FRIENDS OF HISTORIC JEKYLL ISLAND

P.O. BOX 13031

Jekyll Island, GA 31527

### REMEMBER YOUR RENEWAL.....

The FOHJI Board approved a plan to change our membership year to the fiscal year starting July 1, 2014. All of our money goes toward historic preservation endeavors and we need your continued participation. You might consider increasing your level of membership. The various levels are:

- Single Membership \$ 25.00
- Family Membership \$ 40.00
- Preservation Partner \$ 100.00
- Business /Sponsor \$ 250.00
- Patron \$ 500.00
- Benefactor \$ 1,000.00

There would be a tax advantage to upping your membership. If you are not now a member of FOHJI, we welcome you to become a part of our group. Make checks payable to FOHJI and mail to P.O. Box 13031, Jekyll Island, GA, 31527 and you will receive membership information by return mail.

### 2020-2021 Board of Directors

President—Rita Thompson  
 Vice President—Tom Pfaffenbach  
 Secretary—Debbie Boyd  
 Treasurer—Ted Fleshman

### Members

**Term 2021** - Debbie Boyd, Nick Doms, Carol Fritz, John Gross, Rob Stewart

**Term 2022** - Ted Fleshman, Terry Frey, Tom Pfaffenbach, Barbara Stevenson, Thom Schuyler, Rita Thompson

**Term 2023** - Bradley Hoyt, Tim Kinsey, Sarah Tallu Schuyler, Ruthmary Williams

### *Jekyll Journal*

Editor—Barbara Stevenson  
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